

NEAR Mt. Pleasant  
Upper Marlboro, Md.

*Prince Georges*

HABS No. MD665

HABS

MD.

IT-MORRIS

8-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of Washington, D. C.

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Delos H. Smith, District Officer  
1707 Eye St., N.W., Washington, D. C.

HABS

MD.

17-MARBU.V

8.

MOUNT PLEASANT

NEAR Upper Marlboro, Prince Georges County, Maryland  
(Vicinity Patuxent River, above Hills Bridge)

Date of erection: c. 1785

Description:

Architectural detail of south door belongs to  
post-Revolutionary period; brickwork to decedent  
period of the late eighteenth century.

Additional data:

Burial plot has gravestones of Henry Bowie,  
d. 1850, and of Henry Waring, who d. 26 February  
1795 in the second month of his age.

Prepared by Delos H. Smith 1931

Addendum to:

MOUNT PLEASANT  
3401 Mount Pleasant Road  
Upper Marlboro Vic.  
Prince George's County  
Maryland

HABS NO. MD-645

HABS  
MD  
17-MARBU.V,  
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

## MOUNT PLEASANT

HABS NO. MD-665

Location: 3401 Mount Pleasant Road (a private drive accessed either Eyre Drive or Village Drive), Upper Marlboro Vicinity, Prince George's County, Maryland.

Significance: Mount Pleasant is a rare surviving example of an early brick dwelling built in the southern Tidewater style. Dwellings of this type, one-and-a-half stories with a gambrel roof, were commonly found during the period of early settlement in Prince George's County, although generally executed in wood frame. Mount Pleasant was built ca. 1759 as the plantation home of John Waring.

Description: Mount Pleasant is located on the high point of a 49 acre parcel, once part of a larger plantation which bordered on the Patuxent River to the east. It is a one-and-a-half-story, three-bay-by-three-bay, gambrel-roof dwelling built of brick laid in Flemish bond, with a high, common-bond-brick foundation. The entrance is to the east end of the south front facade. It has a round-arched doorway with a semi-circular fanlight and is flanked by fluted pilasters. The typical window is a nine-over-nine-light-sash, with a round wooden arch and a flat-arched brick lintel. There are two asymmetrically placed dormers with nine-over-six-light-sash windows at both the south front and north rear. There is an interior brick chimney at each gable end (and a latter chimney added at the west side). The brick end walls have been stuccoed in 1945 to prevent the further deterioration of these walls.

History: The Mount Pleasant tract was patented to Richard Marsham in 1697. Marsham's wife, Anne, was the daughter of Leonard Calvert, Governor of the State of Maryland. The property, which borders on the Patuxent River to the east, passed through the family, eventually conveying to Marsham's great-great grandson, John Waring, Sr., (1737-1813), who is credited with the construction of the current dwelling, ca. 1759 (the year the property was resurveyed and plated, with no indication of a dwelling house here given). The house was said to have originally been considerably larger, the current entry having been located to the center of a five-bay-wide facade. This is supported by the 1798 Federal Direct Tax which describes the "Mount Pleasant" dwelling of John Waring as being 55' x 35'. The house is further described as being of brick construction, one story with a hip (gambrel) roof, in very good repair. Dependencies to the dwelling lot included a large brick kitchen, a meat house, milk house, carriage house and store house. The larger Mount Pleasant plantation included two frame tenant houses (one 24 feet square and the other 20' x 14'), four slave or "negro houses" (two 24' x 12' and two 20' x 16'), three tobacco houses, corn house with shed and a stable.

John Waring died in 1813 and was buried at Mount Pleasant. His

younger son, Henry Waring, received "my dwelling plantation called Mount Pleasant" (Will TT 1:72). Henry served in the War of 1812, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Commander, and was commissioned Colonel of the Infantry, 34th Regiment. He married Sarah Contee Harrison, in 1802. For generations, Mount Pleasant remained in the Waring family.

Sources: Deeds. Prince George's Co., Land Records, Prince George's County Courthouse.

Wills. Prince George's Co., Register of Wills, Prince George's County Courthouse.

Equity. Prince George's Co., Land Records, Prince George's County Courthouse.

Morgan, William and Ellis J. Parker. "National Register Nomination: Mount Pleasant, 1972." The nomination is located in the History Division, National Park Service.

Historian: Catherine Lavoie, HABS, 1994.